

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated September 22, 2005. Reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Claims 1, 5 and 6 remain in this application. Claims 3 and 4 are canceled by this amendment and claims 2 and 7 were previously canceled.

Counsel for assignee thanks Examiner Patel for the telephone interview conducted on November 8, 2005. During the telephone interview, counsel for assignee explained to the Examiner why counsel believed that neither Padovano nor Baldwin, individually or when combined, teach the claimed invention. Additionally, counsel explained to the Examiner why he believed that the motivation for combining the two references was not proper. The Examiner responded that if counsel submitted arguments in a response to office action that he would consider them again. The following are these arguments.

Claim Rejection Under 35 USC 103

In the Office Action, claims 1, and 3-6 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Padovano (US 6,606,690) in view of Baldwin et al. (U.S. 2003/0167327 A1). Although the claims have been amended to further distinguish them from the prior art, counsel for assignee respectfully traverses the rejections.

In order to establish *prima facie* obviousness three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine the reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Third, the prior art references (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claimed limitations. The teachings or suggestions to make the claimed invention and the reasonable expectation of success must be found in the prior art and not based on Applicant's disclosure. See *In re Vaeck* 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991) and MPEP 2143. The counsel for assignee respectfully submits that the Examiner has not satisfied all three criteria outlined in MPEP 2143.

Counsel does not believe that the prior art references (or references when combined) teach or suggest all of the claimed limitations. First, neither Padovano nor Baldwin teach "a physical view display means for displaying physical connecting relation on said display apparatus in one of (a) a first display mode of displaying said computers and said storage subsystems interconnected through said first physical communication medium and their connecting relation (topology), (b) a second display mode of displaying said computers and said storage subsystems interconnected through said second physical communication medium and their connecting relation (topology), and (c) a third mode of displaying the physical connecting relation both of said first and second display modes at a time." Although Baldwin teaches some of these limitations, Baldwin does not teach all of the limitations as claimed. For example there is no discussion, suggestion or motivation for displaying the first and second display modes at a time, as claimed. Counsel respectfully requests that the Examiner point out where these limitations are found in the cited prior art.

Second neither Padovano nor Baldwin teach "a logical view display means for displaying logical connecting relation on said display apparatus in one of (d) a fourth display mode for displaying said computers, said first storage devices and their topology, and (e) a fifth display mode for displaying said computers, said second storage devices and their topology, (f) a sixth mode of displaying the logical connecting relation both of said third and fourth display modes at a time, (g) a seventh display mode for displaying unused storage device, and (h) an eighth display mode for displaying connection between said computers and said first and second storage devices under access limitation." Again, Baldwin teaches some of these limitations, but fails to teach all of the limitations as claimed. For example there is no discussion, suggestion or motivation for having a sixth mode as claimed and a seventh display mode for displaying unused storage device as claimed. Again, counsel respectfully requests that the Examiner point out where these limitations are found in the cited prior art.

Both of these limitations including the other limitations are not obvious because they are not found in the cited prior art and one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to modify the cited prior art without using the pending application as a guide.

Additionally, counsel does not believe that there is any suggestion or motivation either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Padovano with Baldwin to make the claimed invention, as suggested by the Examiner. In the office action, the Examiner acknowledged that regarding claim 1, Padovano "does not explicitly teach a physical view display means for displaying physical connecting relation on said display apparatus...a logical view display means for displaying logical connecting relation on said display apparatus..." but that Baldwin teaches a physical view display means and a logical view display means. The Examiner then argued:

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enhance Padovano by adding the capabilities of Baldwin such that the network's physical and logical relationships are displayed as claimed as it facilitates access to multiple storage devices, e.g., of varied types, from a plurality of servers or other host digital data processors, e.g., running a variety of platforms (different protocols and physical mediums as Padovano employs NAS and SAN) and provides an apparatus for managing administrator defined and other policies for storage networks, e.g. to facilitate access by multiple hosts to multiple storage for storage devices in a manner consistent with network administrators' wishes and without risk of unwanted access conflicts as taught by Baldwin.

Counsel for assignee vigorously traverses. In order to determine if there is legally sufficient motivation or suggestion for combining references "it is necessary to ascertain whether or not the reference teachings would appear to be sufficient for one of ordinary skill in the relevant art having the reference before him to make the proposed substitution, combination, or other modification." *In re Linter*, 458 F.2d 1013, 1016, 173 USPQ 560, 562 (CCPA 1972) and MPEP 2143.01. Padovano teaches a system structure using plural networks, plural interfaces, and plural types of storage devices. Baldwin teaches a display of SAN topology showing interconnections within the network segment or components. Since Padovano already has a display which serves as an administrative interface (See Padovano FIG. 12 and column 20 lines 25-26), one skilled in the art looking at Padovano would not have been motivated to use Baldwin's display as suggested in the Office Action. Therefore, one skilled in the art would not

have been motivated to modify Padovano to use Baldwin without using the pending application as a guide. Counsel believes that under *In re Linter* and MPEP 2143.01 there is no legal basis for a suggestion or motivation to combine Padovano and Baldwin.

Therefore, the pending claims are not believed obvious under *In re Vaeck* and MPEP 2143 because there is no motivation or suggestion for combining the cited references as suggested in the Office Action. Moreover, pending claims are not believed obvious because assuming arguendo that there was motivation for combining the references, all of the claimed limitations of claims 1, and 3-6 are still not disclosed.

Nevertheless in an effort to expedite prosecution claims 1 and 6 have been amended to further distinguish them from the prior art. Since the limitations of claims 3 and 4 have been incorporated in claims 1 and 6, claims 3 and 4 have been canceled. Support for the other amendments made to claims 1, 5 and 6 can be found throughout the originally specification and specifically in FIG. 21-22 and the corresponding description of these figures.

Amended claims 1 and 6 include a plurality of computers and a plurality of storage subsystems that are connected through several networks. One network is the Ethernet and the other is the Fibre Channel. The storage subsystem further includes at least one storage device to be accessed by computers according to a file access protocol and at least one storage device to be accessed by computers according to a block access protocol. Unlike the prior art, the claimed invention can distinguish between the block access device and the file access device and display them with distinction. Therefore, since neither Padovano, Baldwin nor any other prior art known teaches this additional distinction, counsel for assignee believes the newly amended claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/072,573

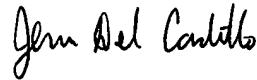
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Amdt. dated December 12, 2005

Reply to Final Office Action of September 22, 2005

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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